EFS-Web Receipt date: 01/26/2005

10522478 - GAU: 3723 107522478 Att. Cket No.: 424662010000 DT01 Rec'd PCT/F? 26 JAN 2005

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Stephen Benjamin COURTNEY

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: No.

Not yet assigned

Filing Date:

Concurrently herewith

For:

SURFACE TREATING APPLIANCE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of foreign documents are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in a Search Report issued in a counterpart Great Britain application dated April 29, 2003.

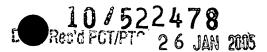
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

va-91692

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The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 424662010000.

Dated: January 26, 2005

Respectfully submitted

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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

| Sut   | estitute for form 1449/PTO   |  | Complete if Known    |                           |                  |
|-------|--|--|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
|       |  | Application Number Not yet assigned 3224  Filing Date Concurrently herewith  First Named Inventor Stephen Benjamin COURTNEY  Art Unit Not yet assigned  Examiner Name Not yet assigned |                      |                           |                  |
| l in  | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use as many sheets as necessary) | SCLOSURE   | Filing Date          | Concurrently herewith     |                  |
| l s   |  | APPLICANT  | First Named Inventor | Stephen Benjamin COURTNEY |                  |
|       |  |  |                      | Art Unit                  | Not yet assigned |
|       | (Use as many sh  | eets as  | s necessary)         | Examiner Name             | Not yet assigned |
| Sheet | 1  | of   | 1                    | Attorney Docket Number    | 424662010000     |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (il known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       | 1.           | 5,323,510   | 6/28/1994                      | Redding et al.                                     |   |
|                       | 2.           | 5,584,095   | 12/17/1996                     | Redding et al.                                     |   |
|                       | 3.           | 5,794,305   | 8/18/1998                      | Weger  |   |
|                       | 4.           | 6,277,164-B1  | 8/21/2001                      | Embree et al.                                      |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |   |                             |  |   |    |
|--------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|--|---|----|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No.1                                     | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear |    |
|                          |  | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                             |  |   | T⁵ |
|                          | 5.   | EP-0353546-A1   | 2-7-1990                    |  |   | X  |
|                          | 6.   | EP-1121889-A2   | 8-8-2001                    |  |   | X  |
|                          | 7.   | EP-1129657-A1   | 9-5-2001                    |  |   | X  |
|                          | 8.   | FR-2826851  | 1-10-2003                   |  | abstract  |    |
|                          | <del>                                     </del> |   |                             |  |   |    |
|                          | L  | }   |                             |  |   |    |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ¹ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁴ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                  | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS   |    |
|------------------|---|----|
| <br>Cite<br>No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T² |

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.